United Nations A/65/PV.89

General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session

Official Records

89th plenary meeting
Friday, 20 May 2011, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Deiss ..... (Switzerland)

The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Agenda item 133 (*continued*)

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (A/65/691/Add.11)

The President (*spoke in French*): Before proceeding, I should like to draw the attention of the General Assembly to document A/65/691/Add.11, in which the Secretary-General informs the President of the General Assembly that, since the issuance of his communications contained in document A/65/691/Add.10, Rwanda has made the necessary payments to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter. I am pleased to note that all Member States have now fulfilled their financial obligations and can now vote in the General Assembly until the end of the sixty-fifth session.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of the information contained in that document?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 10 (*continued*)

Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS

Draft decision (A/65/L.73)

The President (*spoke in French*): Members will recall that the General Assembly, in its resolution 65/180 of 20 December 2010, decided to convene a high-level meeting from 8 to 10 June, which will undertake a comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (resolution S-26/2) and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS (resolution 60/262).

In that connection, the General Assembly has before it a draft decision on the opening plenary meeting of the 2011 comprehensive review, issued as document A/65/L.73.

I now give the floor to the representative of the Secretariat.

Mr. Botnaru (Department of General Assembly and Conference Management): In connection with draft decision A/65/L.73, entitled "Opening plenary meeting of the 2011 comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS", I wish to put on record the following statement of financial implications on behalf of the Secretary-General, in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

By the draft decision, the General Assembly would decide that the opening plenary meeting of the 2011 comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS will be held on Wednesday, 8 June 2011, from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m., on the understanding that such arrangements in no way create a precedent for the

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11-34966 (E)

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scheduling of future plenary meetings of the General Assembly.

It is recalled that, in the oral statement (see A/65/PV.69) originally made by the Secretariat before the adoption of draft resolution A/65/L.49, entitled "Organization of the 2011 comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS" , which was adopted as resolution 65/180, it had been determined that the plenary meetings would form part of the programme of work of the General Assembly. As such, the costs would be met by the existing budgetary appropriation provided to service the General Assembly during normal working hours, which are — and I emphasize — from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and from 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. on weekdays, with interpretation and verbatim record services in all six official languages.

As the opening plenary meeting of 8 June will begin at 9.00 a.m. instead of 10.00 a.m., additional costs of $10,800 would arise under section 2 (General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs and Conference Management) for the provision of interpretation services in all six official languages for an additional hour beyond the existing budgetary appropriation provided to service the General Assembly during normal working hours. However, the Secretariat has made an arrangement with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS in which the latter has agreed to reimburse the cost of $10,800 for the additional hour of interpretation services to be provided.

Consequently, should the General Assembly adopt draft decision A/65/L.73, no programme budget implications would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will now proceed to take action on draft decision A/65/L.73, entitled "Opening plenary meeting of the 2011 comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft decision A/65/L.73?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 10.

Agenda item 112 (*continued*)

Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections

(c) Election of fifteen members of the Human Rights Council

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will now proceed with the election of 15 members of the Human Rights Council to replace those members whose term of office expires on 18 June 2011.

The 15 outgoing members of the Human Rights Council are Argentina, Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, France, Gabon, Ghana, Japan, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Zambia.

In accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, these Member States are eligible for immediate re-election, except those who have served two consecutive terms, namely, Brazil, France, Gabon, Ghana, Japan, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ukraine and Zambia.

The 15 vacant seats should be distributed among the regional groups as follows: four seats for the African States; four seats for the Asian States; two seats for the Eastern European States; three seats for the Latin American and Caribbean States; and two seats for the Western European and other States.

In accordance with resolution 60/251, membership in the Council shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations, and the members of the Council shall serve for a period of three years. The members of the Council shall be elected directly and individually, by secret ballot, by the majority of the members of the General Assembly. Accordingly, 97 votes constitute a majority in the Assembly, which has a membership of 192 States.

The following States will continue to be members of the Human Rights Council: Angola, Bangladesh, Belgium, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Guatemala, Hungary, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia,

Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Qatar, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Uganda, the United States of America and Uruguay, as well as the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, whose status is subject to resolution 65/265 of 1 March 2011. The names of these States therefore should not appear on the ballot papers.

The election will be held in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure of the General Assembly on elections. For this election, rules 92 and 94 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly shall be applied.

Consistent with the practice of the General Assembly, if more than the required number of Member States have obtained the votes of the majority of the members of the Assembly on the same ballot, those Member States that have obtained the largest number of votes above the required majority will be considered as elected, up to the number of seats to be filled. Also, consistent with past practice, in case due to a tie vote it becomes necessary to determine one candidate to be elected or that will proceed to the next round of restricted balloting, there will be a special restricted ballot limited to those candidates that have obtained an equal number of votes.

May I take it that the General Assembly agrees to those procedures?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): Accordingly, the election shall be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations.

Again, I should like to repeat that the 15 vacant seats are to be filled from among the regional groups as follows: four seats from among the Group of African States, four seats from among the Group of Asian States, two seats from among the Group of Eastern European States, three seats from among the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, and two seats from among the Group of Western European and other States. The ballot papers reflect that pattern.

In addition, I have been informed by the Secretariat that the voluntary pledges and commitments made by Member States in accordance with paragraph 8 of resolution 60/251 were accordingly issued as official documents of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that, pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting.

I should like to seek the usual cooperation of representatives during the General Assembly's conduct of elections. I remind them that, during the voting procedure, all campaigning should cease in the General Assembly Hall. This means that, once the meeting has begun, no campaign material may be distributed in the Hall. Representatives are also requested to remain at their seats so that the voting process can proceed in an orderly manner. I thank members for their diligence and cooperation.

We shall now begin the voting process. Ballot papers marked "A", "B", "C", "D" and "E" will now be distributed. Each ballot paper is assigned to one of the five regional groups and has the corresponding number of blank lines for the seats assigned to that region.

I request representatives to use only those ballot papers and to write on them the names of the States for which they wish to vote. A ballot paper containing more names from the relevant region than the number of seats assigned to it will be declared invalid. A ballot will also be declared invalid if all the names of the Member States on that ballot do not belong to the relevant region. If a ballot paper contains names of Member States that do not belong to the relevant region, that are not eligible for re-election or that already members of the Council, the ballot remains valid but those names will not be counted.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Farghal (Egypt), Ms. Reyes (Honduras), Ms. Reich (Hungary), Ms. Zainul Abidin (Malaysia), Mr. Ramjanally (Mauritius) and Ms. Lindqvist (Sweden) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 10.40 a.m. and resumed at 11.55 a.m.

The President (*spoke in French*): The result of the voting is as follows:

Group A — African States (4 seats)

Number of ballot papers:	191
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	191
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	188
Required absolute majority:	97
Number of votes obtained:	
Burkina Faso	182
Botswana	177
Congo	176
Benin	174
Democratic Republic of the Congo	3
South Africa	1
Egypt	1

Group B — Asian States (4 seats)

Number of ballot papers:	191
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	191
Abstentions:	2
Number of members voting:	189
Required absolute majority:	97
Number of votes obtained:	
Indonesia	184
Philippines	183
India	181
Kuwait	166
Syrian Arab Republic	5

Group C — Eastern European States (2 seats)

Number of ballot papers:	191
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	191
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	188
Required absolute majority:	97
Number of votes obtained:	
Czech Republic	148
Romania	131
Georgia	89

Group D — Latin American and Caribbean States (3 seats)

Number of ballot papers:	191
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	191
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	191
Required absolute majority:	97
Number of votes obtained:	
Chile	159
Costa Rica	138
Peru	136
Nicaragua	98

Group E — Western European and other States (2 seats)

Number of ballot papers:	191
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	190
Abstentions:	9
Number of members voting:	181
Required absolute majority:	97
Number of votes obtained:	
Italy	180
Austria	177
Australia	2

Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes of the members of the General Assembly, the following 15 States were elected members of the Human Rights Council for a three-year term of office beginning on 19 June 2011: Austria, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kuwait, Peru, the Philippines and Romania.

The President (*spoke in French*): I congratulate those States that have been elected members of the Human Rights Council, and I wish them every success in the Council. I thank the tellers for their assistance in this election.

The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 112.

The meeting rose at 12.05 p.m.